



Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 4.9. Drier weather conditions earlier in the week helped with hay cutting and crop harvesting, but some fields are still wet; there are reports of ears rotting in the husk. Farming activities for the week included harvesting cotton, peanuts and soybeans.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/28/18

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Topsoil | - | 5 | 70 | 25 |
| Subsoil | - | 5 | 76 | 19 |

- Represents zero.

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 10/28/18

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Barley | - | - | 39 | 61 | - |
| Cotton | 3 | 5 | 24 | 63 | 5 |
| Hay, Alfalfa | - | 8 | 39 | 45 | 8 |
| Hay, Other | 1 | 13 | 33 | 46 | 7 |
| Soybeans | 2 | 9 | 25 | 56 | 8 |
| Pasture | - | 7 | 25 | 49 | 19 |

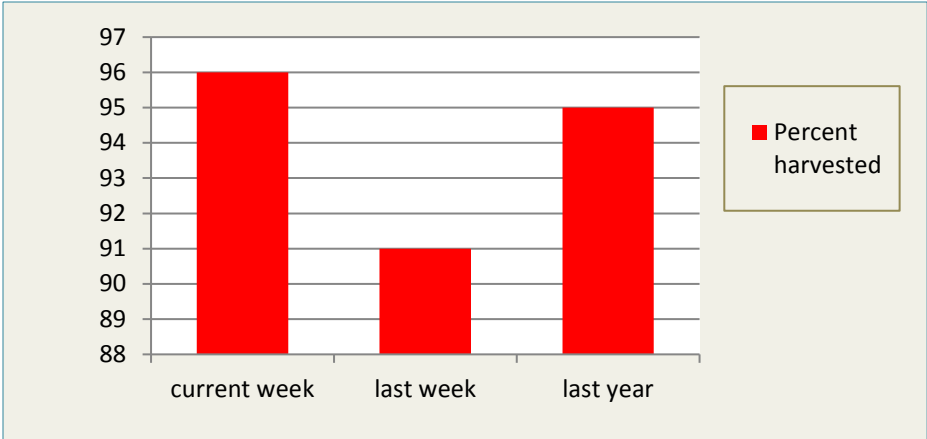
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/28/18

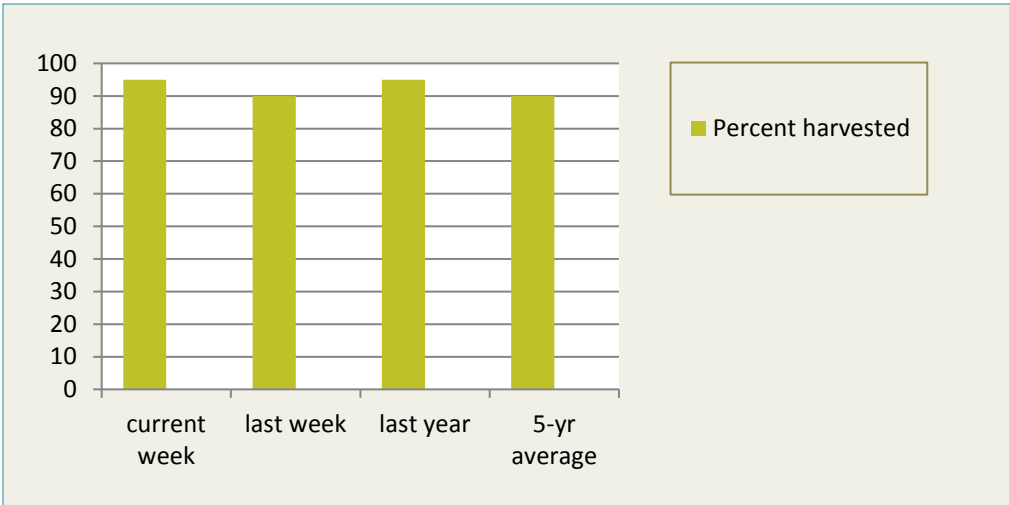
| Crop Stage | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Yr Avg |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Apples harvested | 96 | 91 | 95 | - |
| Barley planted | 74 | 58 | 80 | 76 |
| Corn harvested for grain | 95 | 90 | 95 | 90 |
| Cotton bolls opening | 98 | 96 | 100 | 99 |
| Cotton harvested | 61 | 34 | 63 | 39 |
| Peanuts harvested | 78 | 63 | 88 | 74 |
| Soybeans dropping leaves | 89 | 81 | 93 | 91 |
| Soybeans harvested | 31 | 19 | 39 | 34 |
| Winter Wheat planted | 44 | 32 | 48 | 42 |

- Represents data not available or zero.

APPLES HARVESTED for week ending 10/28/18



CORN HARVESTED FOR GRAIN for week ending 10/28/18



Weather Summary- For the week ending October 28, 2018

| City | Temperature | | | | | | Growing degree days (modified base 50) | | Precipitation | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | Avg. max. | Avg. min. | High max. | Low min. | Avg. | Avg. dep. from normal * | Mar. 1 to Oct. 27 | Mar. 1 to Oct. 27 norm | Last Week | Since Sep. 1 | Sep. 1 dep. from normal * | Jan. 1 to date | Jan. 1 dep. from normal * |
| Lynchburg | 58 | 36 | 70 | 29 | 47 | -7 | 4289 | 3822 | 1.27 | 14.53 | 7.68 | 54.47 | 17.92 |
| Norfolk | 63 | 47 | 71 | 40 | 55 | -4 | 5084 | 4285 | 1.57 | 6.12 | -0.99 | 48.63 | 9.42 |
| Richmond | 60 | 40 | 72 | 33 | 50 | -6 | 4755 | 4149 | 2.12 | 9.05 | 1.93 | 54.51 | 17.18 |
| Roanoke | 58 | 39 | 71 | 32 | 49 | -5 | 4448 | NA | 1.12 | 15.00 | 8.43 | 52.49 | 16.54 |
| Wash/Dulles | 55 | 36 | 71 | 29 | 46 | -7 | 4143 | NA | 1.36 | 10.00 | 3.25 | 53.66 | 18.59 |

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA-Not available. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY – Comments are based on remarks made by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)

Good conditions for harvest early in the week followed by a rainy weekend. Some late season hay was baled. Soybean harvest is underway. Corn and soybean yields and quality are all across the board. Trees are finally beginning to change color.

LOUDOUN (Jim Hilleary)

Fescue in pastures is doing well perhaps as well as the invasive Smartweed which exists in all but the most deliberately maintained fields. Late week rain delayed completion of corn and soybean harvest by one, maybe two weeks. Early week dry days allowed some hay baling.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

Rockbridge had killing frosts with temperatures in the upper 20's Tuesday morning and Friday morning and over an inch of rain late Friday. Very little corn grain has been harvested due to high moisture content and wet field conditions with some reports of ears rotting in the husk. Soybean pods are opening and loosing beans.

BATH/HIGHLAND (John Benner)

Cool season temperatures with frosts around 31-32 degrees for 4 out of 7 nights.

EASTERN

CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)

Rainfall of 2-3 inches across the area stopped field work on Friday. Some progress was made on soybean harvest and wheat seeding early in the week.

SOUTHERN

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

Most of the corn was in before the hurricane, but there is still a bit to be harvested. Soybeans are now being cut, but it remains to be seen how much their quality has been affected. Cover crops are going in following tobacco. Last cutting hay is underway, though the 2 inches of rain that came this week kept a lot from being cut.

SOUTHEASTERN

PRINCE GEORGE/SURRY/SUSSEX (Scott Reiter)

Rainfall of 2-3 inches across the area stopped field work on Friday. Some progress was made on soybean harvest and wheat seeding early in the week.

VIRGINIA BEACH CITY (Roy D. Flanagan)

First real dry spell over the last few weeks has really allowed for soybean harvest and wheat planting progress to be made. Some early maturing beans are showing damage and a fair amount are having to be harvested with green stems, making progress slower since they are tougher picking.